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AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

All claims and their status are listed below.

1-38. (Canceled)

39. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The computer-implemented method ~~as recited in~~ of claim 44,

wherein the study materials presented have at least one level of difficulty, and

wherein the setting the time period ~~set~~ is based on the at least one level of difficulty of the study materials.

40. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The computer-implemented method ~~as recited in~~ of claim 44,

~~wherein the study materials presented include content,~~

wherein the setting the time period ~~set~~ is based on ~~the content of~~ the study materials presented, and

wherein the method waits for the user to enter the input via a keyboard or position-pointing device.

41. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 39, wherein the switching ~~adjusting the study materials~~ comprises adjusting an audio effect.

42. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 39, wherein the switching ~~adjusting the study materials~~ comprises adjusting a visual effect.

43. (Canceled)

44. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for assisting a user to learn a subject via a display coupled to a computer, the method comprising:

presenting, in accordance with instructions of a computer program, study materials on the subject to the user via a first window of a that is at least partially viewable via the display coupled to the computer, where ~~the computer also has a second window is also at least partially viewable via the display;~~

waiting, in accordance with instructions of the computer program, for the user to enter an input to the first window ~~of the computer~~, with the input being in response to the study materials; and

upon failure to receive an input from the user into to the first window of the computer within a time period, when there is one or more inputs by the user to the second window of the computer during the time period, which is indicative of a reduction in the user's level of concentration, adjusting the study materials for presentation on the subject to attempt to improve the user's concentration in learning the subject,

wherein the adjusting, which is in accordance with instructions of the computer program, comprises switching to alternative study materials that are different from study materials that would have been presented if an input was received from the user to the first window within the time period, and

wherein the method further comprises setting the time period in accordance with instructions of the computer program.

45. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 44, wherein ~~the switching adjusting the study materials~~ comprises presenting a question that would not have been presented if an input was received from the user to the first window within the time period.

46. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 45, wherein the question is not on the subject of the study materials.

47. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 45, wherein the user's reply to the question is not used to assess the user's understanding in the subject.

48-49. (Canceled)

50. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 44, wherein ~~the switching adjusting the study materials~~ comprises increasing a stimulation level of the study materials to be presented.

51. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 44, wherein ~~adjusting the study materials comprises~~ the switching includes presenting again at least a portion of the study materials already presented, to a different set of study materials, not the study materials previously planned for the user on the subject if an input is received from the user.

52-55. (Canceled)

56. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The computer-implemented method ~~as recited in of~~ claim 44,

wherein the study materials presented have at least one level of difficulty,

wherein the setting the time period ~~is set~~ is based on the at least one level of difficulty of the study materials, and

wherein the input that the method is waiting for the user to enter is a physical input from the user to the computer.

57. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 56,

wherein the setting the time period also depends on a reference response time of the user, and

wherein the reference response time is determined based on a previous session where study materials on a subject were presented to the user via a computer.

58. (Canceled)

59. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The computer-implemented method ~~as recited in of~~ claim 44,

wherein the switching ~~adjusting the study materials~~ comprises changing a pace of the presentation of the materials.

60. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 44, further comprising assessing the user's understanding in the subject.

61. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 59, wherein ~~the switching adjusting the study materials~~ comprises presenting a question.

62. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 59, wherein ~~the~~ changing the pace of the presentation of the materials includes reducing the speed of presentation of the materials.

63. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 59, wherein ~~adjusting the study materials comprises~~ the switching comprises presenting again at least a portion of the study materials already presented ~~to a different set of study materials, not the study materials previously planned for the user on the subject if an input is received from the user.~~

64. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 44, further comprising providing the user with options for the user to determine how to proceed in the learning process, upon failure to receive an input from the user ~~into~~ to the first window ~~of the computer~~ within the time period.

65. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 45, wherein the question is displayed on ~~a screen~~ the display and is orally presented.

66. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 45, further comprising praising the user if the answer to the question is correct.

67. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 45, further comprising presenting study materials related to the question to help the user learn the subject if the answer to the question is not correct.

68. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 45, further comprising presenting again at least a portion of the study materials already presented again to help the user learn the subject if the answer to the question is not correct.

69. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 45, wherein the study materials presented have at least one difficulty level, and wherein the method further comprises presenting study materials with a difficulty level lower than the at least one difficulty level to help the user learn the subject if the answer to the question is not correct.

70. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 45, wherein whether the answer to the question is correct or not does not affect study materials to be presented to the user.

71. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for assisting a user to learn a subject via a display coupled to a computing device, the method comprising:

presenting, in accordance with instructions of a computer program, study materials on the subject to the user via a first window of a that is at least partially viewable via the display coupled to the computing device, where the computing device also has a second window is also at least partially viewable via the display;

monitoring, in accordance with instructions of the computer program, an amount of time to receive for an input from the user to the first window; and

with no input from the user into to the first window within a time period, when there is one or more inputs by the user to the second window during the time period, adjusting, in accordance with instructions of the computer program, the study materials for presentation to the user on the subject,

wherein the adjusting the study materials comprises changing a pace of the presentation of the materials.

72. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 71, wherein the study materials presented have at least one level of difficulty, and wherein the time period depends on the at least one level of difficulty of the study materials.

73. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 72, wherein the adjusting the study materials comprises presenting a question.

74. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 73, wherein the adjusting the study materials comprises providing the user with options for the user to determine how to proceed in the learning process.

75. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 74 further comprising assessing the user's understanding in the subject.

76. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 64, wherein the study materials presented have at least one level of difficulty, and wherein the time period depends on the at least one level of difficulty of the study materials.

77. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 64, wherein the time period depends on a reference response time of the user, and wherein the reference response time is determined based on a previous session where study materials on a subject were presented to the user via a computer.

78. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium containing including instructions of a computer program for controlling a computing device coupled to a display to assist a user to learn a subject by a method comprising:

presenting study materials on the subject to the user via a first window ~~of a~~ that is at least partially viewable via the display coupled to the computing device, where the

~~computing device also has a second window~~ is also at least partially viewable via the display;

waiting for the user to enter an input to the first window ~~of the computing device,~~
with the input being in response to the study materials; and

upon failure to receive an input from the user ~~into~~ to the first window ~~of the computing device~~ within a time period, when there is one or more inputs by the user to the second window ~~of the computing device~~ during the time period, adjusting the study materials for presentation on the subject to help the user learn the subject,

wherein the adjusting comprises switching to alternative study materials that are different from study materials that would have been presented if an input was received from the user to the first window within the time period, and

wherein the method further comprises setting the time period.

79. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method to assist a user to learn a subject via a display coupled to a computing device comprising:

providing study materials on the subject to be presented, in accordance with instructions of a computer program, to the user via a first window ~~of a~~ that is at least partially viewable via the display coupled to the computing device, where ~~the computing device also has a second window~~ is also at least partially viewable via the display;

~~waiting for the user to enter an input to the first window of the computing device,~~
~~with the input being in response to the study materials; and~~

upon failure to receive an input from the user ~~into~~ to the first window ~~of the computing device~~ within a time period, as determined by waiting for the user to enter an

input to the first window, with the input being in response to the study materials, when there is one or more inputs by the user to the second window of the computing device during the time period, adjusting, in accordance with instructions of the computer program, the study materials for presentation on the subject to help the user learn the subject,

wherein the adjusting comprises providing a question related to the study materials to be presented, and

wherein the method further comprises setting the time period in accordance with instructions of the computer program.

80. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]] The computer-implemented method as recited in of claim 79, wherein the user is provided with options to determine how to proceed in the learning process, upon failure to receive an input from the user to the first window within the time period, further comprising monitoring the user's input for a duration of time to determine the user's attention to the study materials presented over time.~~

81-92. (Canceled)